

Part B

LEAD AGENCY/BUREAU AND/OR SUBCOMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP REPORT (Agencies with Lead Responsibilities Assigned under the new Circular A-16 in Appendix E - <http://www.fgdc.gov/publications/a16final.html#appendix>) (Please provide a separate report for each activity for which you have the lead)

1. Program/Activity Name:
 - National Park Service, Cultural Resource Data
2. What are the specific federal programs this data supports?
 - National Historic Preservation Act, Sec. 106
 - National Historic Preservation Act, Sec. 110
 - Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
 - National Park Service cultural resource programs: National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks, Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, Historic American Landscape Survey, the American Battlefield Protection Program, Archaeology and Ethnography, and Historic Preservation Tax Incentives.
 - The Historic Preservation Fund program provides funds for survey and inventory of historic properties to State Historic Preservation Offices in each state including the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and certified Tribal Historic Preservation Offices and certified local governments.
3. Uses of Data: How does your data benefit customers and support agency missions?
 - Cultural Resource data is critical to Federal agency compliance with Section 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. These sections require that the locations of cultural resources be identified in order to avoid unnecessary damage to them during the course of a Federal undertaking and as data for long term preservation planning purposes.
 - Cultural Resource data is critical to Federal agency compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Accurate locational data describing where graves have been found, and continue to be uncovered helps to determine which Native American group may have a claim to the remains.
 - Cultural Resource data is critical to State Historic Preservation Offices who participate in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as other Federal, state or local historic preservation programs, such as the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program. In particular, the data is used to make decisions on nominating historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places, to identify which properties might be eligible for protective easements, or tax rehabilitation credit.
 - Ancillary Federal Agencies, such as FEMA, use cultural resource locational data for emergency preparedness and for assessment purposes following disasters

- Homeland Security uses cultural resource data to determine potential targets, such as the Liberty Bell, Statue of Liberty, or other cultural icons, and to provide effective protection for these resources
 - All Federal land management agencies, such as the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, or National Park Service use cultural resource data to manage and protect resources. In some cases agencies such as the National Park Service use this data to develop interpretative programs for visitors.
4. Charter/Plan: Do you have a current charter or plan for collection? If so - please describe (include how recently the charter/plan was implemented and whether it is in need of update).
- A charter for a Cultural Resources Work Group, under the Subcommittee on Cultural and Demographic Data was created in 1999 and is in need of an update
 - Current plans call for a workshop with the Cultural Resource program leaders within the National Park Service in FY 2004 to establish consistent data content standards and collection methods
 - Additional plans call for the creation of spatial data standards for legacy data and metadata standards for all cultural resource data
5. Metadata Status: Is metadata discoverable and served through the NSDI Clearinghouse? What percentage of this theme's data has metadata and is in a Clearinghouse node?
- Cultural Resource data is not currently available through an NSDI clearinghouse and metadata has not been created for any cultural data theme
 - The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, through an FGDC grant has drafted Metadata standards for the western states
6. Standards: What is the status of this theme's data, process, transfer, and classification standards?
- No standards have been established at this time although a draft content standards for cultural resources has been drafted by the western states as a result of a grant from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. This document will be reviewed by the Cultural Resources Work Group for possible revision and consideration as a proposed FGDC standard.
7. Progress: List FY 2002/2003 activities/progress to date (quantify where possible).
- An updated list of tasks for the Cultural Resources work group has been created
 - A workshop to discuss the creation of data content and collection standards has been scheduled for early FY 2004
8. Policy: Do you have a formal agency policy in place for full and open access or data sharing? Are you able to fulfill this policy and provide public access with

your current agency financial resources as allocated or are you in pursuit of collaborative federal partnerships to support data access?

- While there is no formal policy in place that specifically deals with access or data sharing for cultural resources, under 36 CFR 60, authority is granted to withhold the disclosure of locational information for properties listed on the National Register if the official determines that the release of such information may cause harm or destruction to the historic property. Many Tribal Historic Preservation Offices as well as Federal agencies have similar policies in place.
- The National Park Service does operate a data clearinghouse on the Internet where the cultural resource data, when standardized, can be disseminated to the public (<http://www.nps.gov/gis/>)

9. Are there areas or issues regarding lead responsibilities for spatial data themes that require attention, or lessons-learned that you would like to share with others? Please describe.

- Approximately 20 separate cultural resource data sets exist within the National Park Service, which must be tied together and presented as a coherent cultural resource dataset for the public
- Each of these cultural resource programs maintains different standards for the collection and storage of locational data related to the resources
- The National Park Service is now working with the managers of these databases to develop spatial data standards to better enable sharing of these datasets